

October 19, 1972

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To: [REDACTED] 25X1A
From: [REDACTED] 25X1A
Subject: INCITP, Class I - Latin America

The first INCITP class completed its three week training program on October 13, 1972. None of the students continued into language training. A copy of the Class Schedule is attached.

Agency Participation

Twenty seven students from four agencies participated in the program.

BNDD	5
Customs	15
OPS	3
STATE	4

Speakers, reading matter, visual aids, and handouts were provided by the four agencies mentioned above, CIA, US Army Engineering School, AID, FSI, and various universities in the Washington area.

Course Scope and Content

Three days were devoted to General Orientation, seven to Operational Training, and four to Area Familiarization. Forty-seven subject inputs, ranging from the Role of the Ambassador and the Country Team through operational case studies to historical background and Cultural Patterns - Role and Status, were offered. The HumRRO Exercise was eliminated and replaced by a talk on Language Training, Study and Testing, the reading of classified documents, a talk on living and working overseas, and a study and discussion of a country narcotics control action plan. In

addition to the scheduled activities, all trainees, who had any proficiency in Spanish and who had not been tested within the past three years, were given a language proficiency test. Results of the test will be forwarded to the appropriate agency.

Thirty-four speakers, not including those from CIA, addressed the group. Most of them conducted their sessions on a seminar basis, encouraging interaction with and among the students. This produced many lively discussions and succeeded in bringing to the surface latent anxieties, fears, and resentments. By and large most of them were dispelled or mitigated by the end of the course.

Course Evaluation

At the close of the course students were asked to grade each subject and select the top ten speakers. They were also asked to comment on the CIA input, the usefulness of the course, and to indicate what might be done to improve it. A summary of their comments follows:

- 60% of the class rated all but two of the subjects as useful and/or both interesting and useful.

- 9 of the 34 speakers were rated in the top ten by 60% of the class.

All but three speakers received at least one vote, placing them in the top ten. On the other side of the coin, 10 of the speakers received at least one vote as the least interesting speaker.

- The CIA input was evaluated separately. It was generally felt that the CIA input was useful and professional, but too repetitious.

- In commenting on general usefulness, the consensus was that students had received a clear idea of what to expect when assigned to a foreign post,

and would also help them become rapidly effective after arrival at the post.

- Recommendations to improve the program were both definite and thoughtful.

Specifically, they requested that more time be devoted to questions and answers, more time for discussion of the culture of potential host countries, and perhaps a little less emphasis on professional type subjects as offered by BNDD, Customs and CIA.

- The group concurred that the best way to use returnees was to have them relate their individual experiences and answer questions without reservation, as we did this time. It was also the opinion of the group that unless a returnee had specific experience in narcotics law enforcement, he should not speak to the group. (The Customs' returnees had no experience in this area, although they were experts in fraud investigation and as Customs' advisors.) The group further felt that returnees should not be enrolled as students in the course.

Action Taken

Time between the first and second class does not permit extensive reaction to student comment or modification of the schedule prior to the class beginning October 24th. Nonetheless, we have been able to:

- 1) Expand the number of sessions relating to understanding the peoples of potential host countries.
- 2) Eliminate talks on subjects which do not pertain to the area of assignment.
- 3) Eliminate subjects which have little interest or utility to the student body.
- 4) Encourage speakers from the various agencies to adjust their

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5) CIA will modify its presentation to focus further on issues and problems of those going overseas.

General Comment

It was rewarding to work with the members of the IAG in preparing the curriculum for this course. Agency representatives were interested in the project; enthusiastic in their participation; and responsive and cooperative.

As the course progressed, one could sense a change in the class. By the end of the second week, interagency distrust and rivalries were openly discussed and the participants were beginning to appreciate each other as individuals, as well as to understand better the parent agency point of view. By the third week, there was good-natured "needling" going on in the class.

Conclusions

The course was generally successful and achieved the two-fold goal stated in the FSI proposal submitted to the CCINC.

Attached:
Class Schedule

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